

REMARKS

The serial numbers and filing dates of co-pending applications have been added to Page 1 of the Specification.

New Claims 23 through 28 have been added. New Claim 23 includes all of the limitations of previous Claims 1 and 2. New Claim 24 includes all of the limitations of previous Claims 1, 5, 9, 10, and 11. New Claim 25 includes all of the limitations of previous Claims 1, 5, 9, and 14. New Claim 26 includes all of the limitations of previous Claims 1 and 12. New Claim 27 includes all of the limitations of previous Claims 16, 17, and 18. New Claim 28 includes all of the limitations of previous Claims 16 and 19.

Claim 3 which had originally been dependent upon Claim 2 is now made dependent upon new Claim 23. Claim 13 which had originally been dependent upon Claim 12 is now made dependent upon new Claim 26. Claim 20 which had originally been dependent upon Claim 19 is now made dependent upon new Claim 28.

Claims 1, 2, 5 through 12, and 14 through 19 have been cancelled, since it is believed that the balance of the claims remaining in this application after amendment adequately protects the Applicant's invention.

Claims 1, 5 through 10 and 15 had been rejected under 35 USC 101 as being the subject of double patenting. The Examiner indicated that they claimed the same invention as Claims 1, 3 through 7, and 11 of co-pending application 10/693,767. In addition, Claims 16 and 17 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claim 12 of the '767 patent application.

The Examiner indicates that Claims 2 through 4, 11 through 14, and 18 through 22 thought being objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant's attorney respectfully submits that new Claims 23 through 28 meet the aforementioned criteria and allowance is respectfully requested.

The Applicant's attorney has reviewed the prior art of record to Nicol, Grenier, Fujihisa et al., Fasano, Link et al., Powell, Nar, Edd et al., and Bruckert et al. but does not believe that those references apply to reject any of the claims remaining in this application after amendment.

Reconsideration of the rejections and objections of all the claims remaining in this application after amendment and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.



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